

Highly Effective School Library Program

Process for Continuing Highly Effective Status

Please complete the following by **January 31, 2015**. This new designation is effective for until 2018.

STEP 1:

School:	Buffalo Trail Elementary	
School Address:	24300 E. Progress Dr.,	Aurora, CO
School Librarian:	Kimberly Casali	
School Librarian Contact Information:	Email Kcasali@cherrycreekschools.org	Phone 720-886-4011
School library website URL:	buffalotrail.cherrycreekschools.org	
School District:	Cherry Creek Schools	

As a HESL certified teacher-librarian, I will continue to professionally grow and demonstrate leadership and instructional best practice to maintain this designation for 3 years at my current school.

Kimberly Casali
Signature of School Librarian

Jan 25, 2015
Date

Jamara Speidel
Signature of Principal

1/27/15
Date

tspeidel@cherrycreekschools.org
Principal e-mail

Step 2:

Please upload indicated items to your dedicated space at the [HESLP wiki](#) and include the following items:

- ✓ Revisit the rubric and notice the shifts in priorities (particularly the emphasis on instructional best practice and leadership) and other changes we have made to the rubric since 2011. Assess your program with this revised rubric.
- ✓ Complete and [upload](#) your growth plan using this [template](#) (2 or 3 goals)
 - o We recommend your growth plan goals focus on collaboration, instruction, leadership or digital literacy. We will be hosting a webinar and CALCON session on goal writing and providing meaningful measurable evidence of your goals. Stay tuned for dates/times.
- ✓ [Upload](#) your library web page link.
- ✓ [Upload](#) a one-page (approximate) narrative that provides specific and measurable examples of how you have grown professionally and the impact your program continues to have on student achievement. Your principal will also sign this letter and be able to provide additional evidence or comments.
- ✓ Send this completed form with signatures to [Judy Barnett](#).

If you have questions regarding this program, contact [Judy Barnett](#).

jbarnett@coloradostatelibrary.org



COLORADO
Department of Education



Buffalo Trail Elementary School
24300 East Progress Drive
Aurora, Colorado 80016
720.886.4000
720.886.4088 FAX



The Buffalo Trail Elementary Library mission is to inspire students to become lifelong learners and to achieve an awareness of literature by acquiring the skills to effectively and efficiently find, use, evaluate and communicate information. It is with great pride, that I share with you a reflection of our accomplishments from the past three years, since achieving our status of Highly Effective Library status. I have worked continually to improve myself professionally and improve student achievement at Buffalo Trail through collaboration, leadership, and instruction.

Through the support of our administration, our building technician, and our teaching staff I have been able to maintain a flexible schedule. This allows me, or my staff, to be available to students in groups, open check out, and co-teaching at various times from 7am-4 pm daily. In order for me to be the best asset to our school community as possible, it is important that I maintain a strong leadership presence; some specific and measurable examples of how I have grown professionally include membership in ALA and CAL, participation in Teacher Librarian Day-Teaching With Primary Sources, creating a mentor program for new teachers in our building, creating "Work Together Wednesdays" which allow staff to share, learn and question in a collaborative way, Creative Commons Digital Citizen Evaluator, CDE Educator Voice Cadre, and community education to PTCO University on the topics of Digital Safety, Databases and e-Books.

The CCSD, District Technology Leadership Team, also asked me to present at our District Ed-Camp with three neighboring elementaries, on the topic, "Using Google Docs to Improve Writing." Additionally, I am one of two elementary librarians on the District Library Leadership Team. We don't have a District Librarian, our team is composed of two elementary, two middle and two high school librarians, the district library manager and the cataloging/processing manager. It is our responsibility to advocate for school libraries, organize level meetings, and provide professional development. In the past three years, we have also made decisions regarding the updating and improvements to our district cataloging system. In addition to reading books to encourage students about specific book titles, I also read professionally. Recently I have read, *Habits of Mind*, by Arthur L. Costa and *Reading in the Wild*, by Donalyn Miller. I have used examples from these books in my co-teaching practices and through examples to our teaching staff. My status as a National Board Certified School Librarian is foundational in my visionary thinking, planning and goal setting for the Buffalo Trail Library Program.

Some examples of the impact our program has made on student achievement as defined within the Highly Effective School Library Program Competencies include:

- **Collaboration**-Increased co-teaching to encourage research, technology integration, Google Drive writing and staff development.
- **Instruction**- Collaborative research projects integrating Colorado Academic Standards at grades 1-5 and the student creation of Digital Portfolios in grades 3-5.

- **Instructional Delivery**- Creation and implementation of “Habits of Mind” class that includes backward design planning, iFESS Research “Holding Your Thinking” templates for note taking to encourage differentiated researching practices, and implementation of researching with technology “Boot Camp” for 5th graders.
- **Assessment of Student Work**-Online commenting using Google, collaboration within research and writing documents, “Tech Tips” journaling for all 3-5th graders, surveys, checklists and digital rubrics.
- **Reading Development**-40 Book Challenge project with 2nd Grade and recipients of the CCSD Foundation Grant, CCSD Battle of Books participation, creation of a professional Book Room, author and poet visits, vacation reading contests, and Wild Reading Fridays to foster and encourage questioning and reading for personal pleasure.
- **Library Environment**-Our library is a space committed to providing a high quality learning experience for all, it is the “hub” of our school, we have been fortunate to have the addition of new computers and workstations, displays incorporating student work, author studies, CDE Collection Grant book bags and new Library Catalog.
- **Special Programming**-Boys’ and Girls’ Reading Nights, NOOK reading groups, book clubs, and partnership with the Arapahoe Public Library Program to promote summer reading and acquisition of public library cards.
- **Productivity**-Addition of current and worldly magazines, databases and books to our collection. Modeling and training for the sharing of documents in Google with students and staff, co-teaching to show commenting and other features of Google and Chromebook basics, and researching using databases.

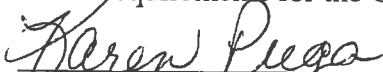
I believe that I am able to support the students, staff and community through my various roles of a Teacher Librarian as a leader, curriculum developer, technology coach, mentor, and educational partner. It is a pleasure to come to Buffalo Trail Elementary Library daily striving: to improve student achievement, to inspire students to a greater love of reading, to encourage digital citizenship and the utilization of 21st Century tools, and to foster inquiry based research.

I have met with the Buffalo Trail administration team and upon review of our school library program, according to the revised Colorado Highly Effective School Library Programs Evaluative Rubric for 21st Century Colorado School Librarians and their Library Programs, we believe that Buffalo Trail maintains the Evidence Outcomes of a Highly Effective Library Program.

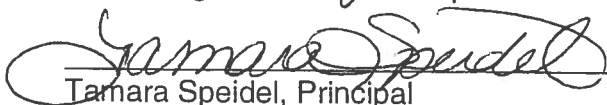


Kim Casali, Teacher Librarian

Through observation and collaboration, we feel confident that our library program meets all the requirements for the Colorado Highly Effective School Library Program.



Karen Puga, Assistant Principal



Tamara Speidel, Principal

Buffalo Trail Elementary Annual School Library Growth Plan

Date: 2014-2015 SY School Librarian: Kimberly Casali School: Buffalo Trail District: CCSD

GOALS	School Improvement Plan Goal (SIP)	
	1	
	<p>HESLP Target area (which area would you like to improve upon and WHY?)</p>	<p>Buffalo Trail students will demonstrate adequate growth in math.</p>
	<p>My SMART goal which is worded to show alignment between SIP and HESLP Target area</p>	<p>Based on your target area, write growth plan goal #1 here. How is this aligned with your school's goal?</p> <p>Through teacher collaboration and lessons in the library, I will model differentiated instruction in standards based lessons to add examples of real life math problems and analytical thinking through research, digital portfolios, and financial literacy with 3rd -5th grade students. This is aligned with our school goal as we are expected to provide differentiated instruction and best practices to reach all learners.</p>
	<p>My Strategies/Indicators for carrying out my SMART goal</p>	<p>What actions will you need to do to implement your goal?</p> <p>I will need to evaluate websites for materials available aligning with new math curriculum. I will need to purchase new financial literacy materials. I will need to continue to instruct students about the creation and updating of their digital portfolio on Google Sites to include evidence of real life math examples. I will continue to ask students to process questions that encourage them to think analytically.</p>
	<p>My Partners</p>	<p>Who will be your partners in implementing your goal/strategies? List staff members, students, parents or others who will be helping you and your school reach this goal.</p>

SMART Goals:
Specific **Measurable** **Achievable** **Results-Focused** **Time Bound**

